

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing, prior to examination, is respectfully sought and earnestly solicited.

**Claim Status**

Claims 1-23 are provided by the parent Specification. By the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1-23 were canceled. Also by the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, Claims 24-46 are added.

Accordingly, Claims 24-46 are pending.

**Summary of Amendments**

Title: The Title has been amended to describe Applicants' invention.

Abstract: The Abstract has been substituted so that Applicants' invention is accurately described.

Specification: The Specification has been amended to recite the requisite priority information. The Specification has also been amended to include a "Brief Description of the Drawings" heading, as was required in the parent application.

Claims: Original Claims 1-23 were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New Claims 24-46 find support in, at least, original Claims 1-23 (See Appendix A) and throughout the Specification, especially Page 3, Line 23 to Page 16, Line 3.

Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

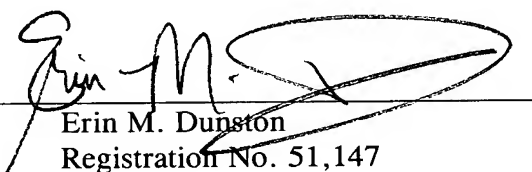
**CONCLUSION**

From the foregoing, further and favorable consideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this response, or the application in general, it would be greatly appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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## **ABSTRACT**

The invention concerns a heat thickening composition for coating slips comprising at least one heat-sensitive copolymer, wherein said heat-sensitive copolymer comprises a polymer segment and at least two polymer side segments, wherein either said polymer segment has or said polymer side segments have a lower critical solubility temperature of between 30°C and 80°C, wherein said polymer side segments are identical or different, and wherein said heat-sensitive copolymer has a comb structure. The invention also concerns coating slips for coating paper or boards and to a process for heat thickening of coating slips.

## APPENDIX A

Original Claim Providing Support For	New Claim
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